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SECURITY INFORMATION

COUNTRY East Germany

REPORT

TOPIC Military Information from East Germany

50X1-HUM

EVALUATION

PLACE OBTAINED

50X1-HUM

DATE OF CONTENT

DATE OBTAINED

DATE PREPARED

23 October 1953

REFERENCES

PAGES

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ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)

REMARKS

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1. About 10 p.m. on 1 October 1953, [] a convoy of 14 trucks [] proceed toward Dresden-Nickern. The trucks were occupied by about 160 men who wore red-bordered black epaulets and carried carbines and submachine guns.¹ 50X1-HUM
2. The following bridging exercises were observed in the Dessau-Rosslau area: 50X1-HUM
 - a. Between 5 and 9 a.m. on 26 September, a bridge was being constructed over the Elbe River between Rietzmeck and Brambach. About 8 a.m., [] six armored cars mounting four-barreled AA machine guns proceeding in this direction. 50X1-HUM
 - b. Between 8 a.m. and 2 p.m. on 2 September, a military bridge was being built over the Elbe River between river kilometermarkers 222 and 226.²
3. At 10 a.m. on 24 September, [] a rail shipment of 14 x 85-mm AA guns, 20 to 30 trucks and other motor vehicles and 14 boxcars loaded with personnel and equipment proceeding through Coswig toward Wittenberg. 50X1-HUM
4. About 5 p.m. on 29 September, 11 trucks each of them loaded with 20 men who wore red-bordered black epaulets and were armed with submachine guns arrived at Camp Nochten at the Weisswasser troop training grounds. The trucks had come from the direction of Cottbus, [] 50X1-HUM

[] On 30 September, 8 T-34/85 tanks left Camp Nochten toward Spremberg. About 5 a.m. on 30 September, [] 10 trucks each of them loaded with 20 men who wore red-bordered black epaulets and were armed with submachine guns coming from the direction of Cottbus and proceeding toward Nochten. Each of the trucks mounted a heavy machine gun. Between 7 a.m. and 2 p.m. on the same day, firing with submachine guns, and on 1 and 2 October, firing with submachine guns and heavy machine guns was practiced at the Weisswasser troop training grounds. Reports of tank guns were heard in Weisswasser on 3 October.³ 50X1-HUM
1. Comment. The motor vehicle [] mentioned indicate that a component unit of the First Gds Mecz Army, which was probably returning from the Koenigsbrueck troop training grounds to the Flak Kaserne in Dresden-Nickern, was involved. 50X1-HUM

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2. Comment. Since [redacted] engineer units began to leave the Dessau training area on 1 October, it is believed that the bridging operations observed were concluding exercises in which no major units of other branches of service participated. Last year, bridges over the Elbe River were built in this area on 11 October in conjunction with the maneuvers of the Eighth Gds Mecz Army. 50X1-HUM
50X1-HUM
3. Comment. Since 15 September 1953, component units of the 9th Mecz Div have continuously used the Weisswasser troop training grounds for firing practices. 50X1-HUM

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